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MCPO to hold fourth annual Community Justice Academy

Innovative learning environment increases citizen engagement in criminal justice

(Indianapolis, Ind.) The Marion County Prosecutor's Office announced today that it will host the fourth annual Community Justice Academy every Monday in October. The Community Justice Academy is part of an ongoing and comprehensive effort by the Prosecutor's Office to educate and engage citizens about crime prevention strategies and the criminal justice system.

"Each year, our office identifies trends in crime prevention and criminal justice that we believe are timely topics for discussion at the Community Justice Academy," said Prosecutor Curry. "The academy gives prosecutors and other public safety officials an opportunity to share this critical information, while working with citizens to address the specific needs of their neighborhoods, resulting in partnerships that last throughout the year."

The Community Justice Academy will begin on October 6, and sessions will continue on Monday evenings in October from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Indianapolis Public Library- Library Services Center. The sessions and presenters are:

- **Week 1 (Oct. 6): Critical Need for Witness Support in Prosecution**
Presented by Prosecutor Terry Curry and Indiana University Department of Criminal Justice, Assistant Professor Natalie Kroovand Hipple, with remarks by Debra Watson, Mother of Homicide victim Thomas "DJ" Keys
- **Week 2 (Oct. 13): Criminals Targeting the Baby Boomer Generation**
Presented by Marion County Deputy Prosecutor Cindy Oetjen and MCPO Adult Protective Services Administrator Andrea Qualitza
- **Week 3 (Oct. 20): Deadly Myths about Domestic and Dating Violence**
Presented by Marion County Deputy Prosecutors Kristina Korobovo and Linda Major
- **Week 4 (Oct. 27): Overcoming the Barriers to Re-Entry**
Presented by City County Councilor Vop Osili and Marion County Deputy Prosecutor Andrew Fogle

The Community Justice Academy is free, and all adults are welcome. Seating is limited and registration is required. To learn more about Community Justice Academy or register, please contact Annie Kern at (317) 327-3642 or annie.kern@indy.gov.

Founded by the Marion County Prosecutor's Office in 2011, the Community Justice Academy has covered topics ranging from community policing to how prosecutors use forensic science. Approximately 200 community members have participated in the academy since its inception.